



Parent Involvement: A Historical Overview

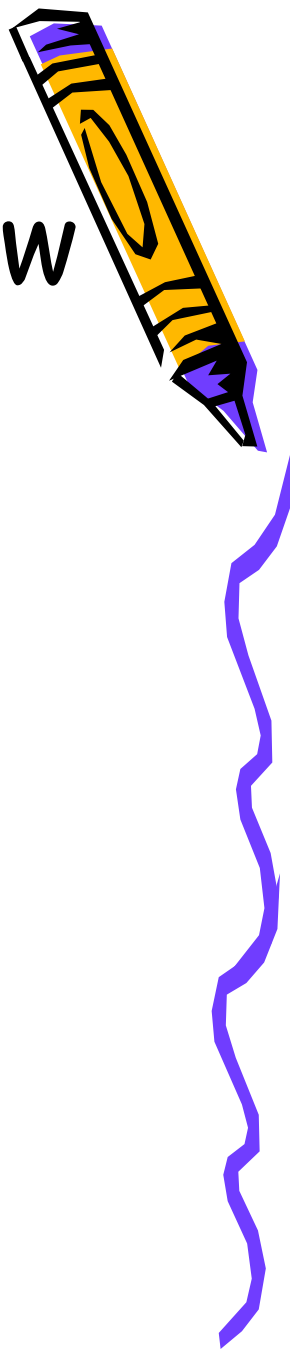
Learning about the past gives us an opportunity to
understand our future.

-Mari Riojas-Cortez



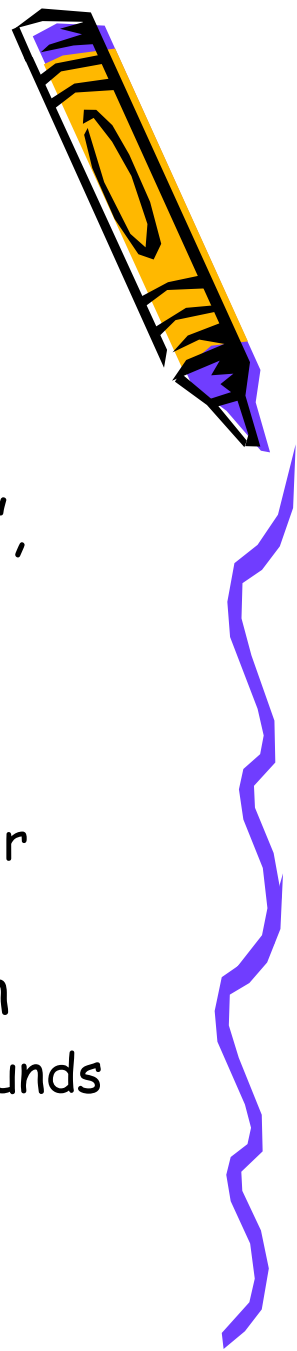
Chapter Four Overview

- Social Thinkers
 - Comenius
 - Locke
 - Rousseau
 - Pestalozzi
 - Froebel
- Historical Influences on Parent Education and Involvement



John Amos Comenius

(1592-1670)



- Moravian Brethren member
- Wrote "Didactica Magna", "School of Infancy", and "Orbis Pictus" (The World in Pictures)
- Believed in basic goodness of each child
 - Allows families to work with young children and understand that they can mold their child's behavior through guidance and discipline.
- Believed in the importance of infant education
 - teaching them many things what we now define as funds of knowledge

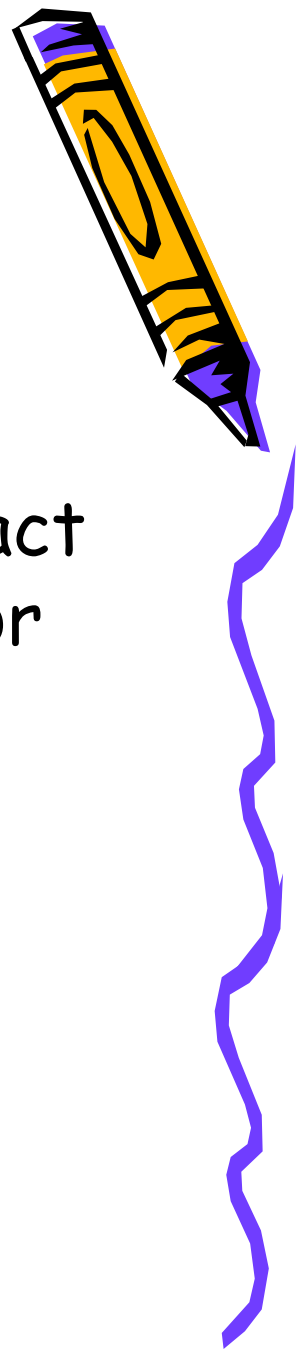


John Locke (1632-1704)

- Tabula Rasa - idea that a child's mind is born as a blank slate.
 - up to family and teacher to provide valuable experiences and optimum environment for child to thrive.



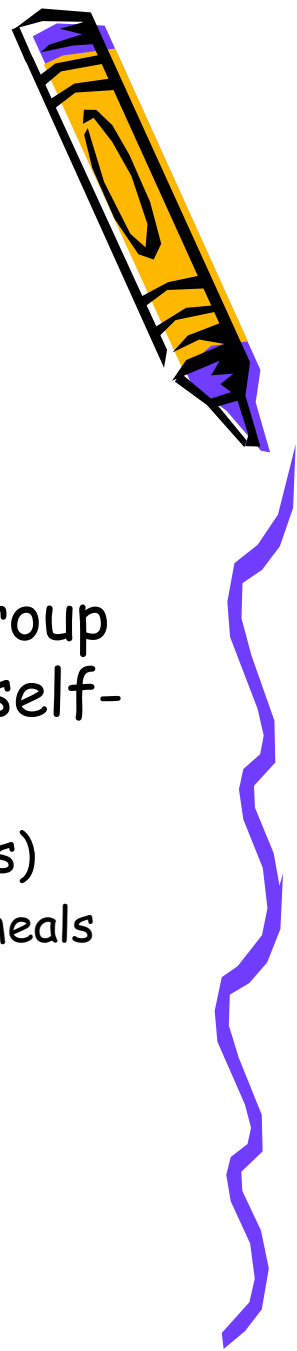
Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)



- "Social Contract" (1762) - described government through consent and contract with its subjects - expressing desire for freedom
- "Emile" (1762) - urged mothers to 'cultivate' or teach their children - emphasizing parental role.



Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi (1747-1827)

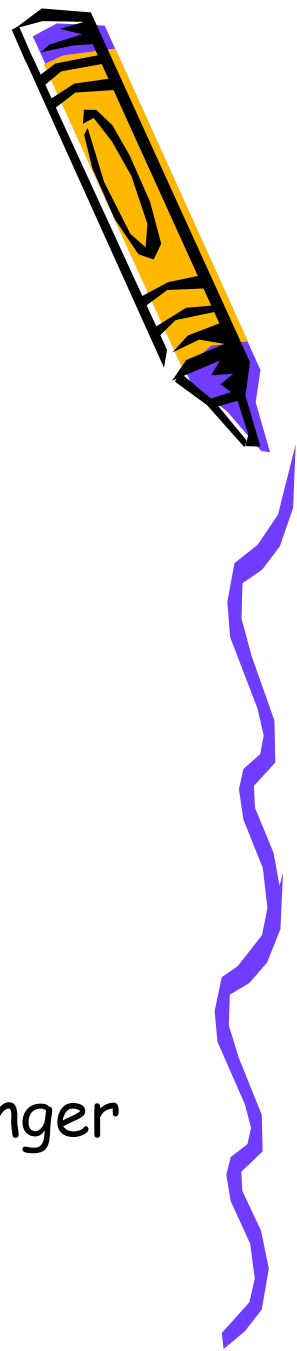


- 'Father of parent education'
- Also believed in natural goodness of children
- Teaching based on use of concrete objects, group instruction, cooperation among students, and self-activity
- Use of manipulatives (teaching through tangible objects)
 - Child's day also included recreation time and snacks and meals
- "How Gertrude Teaches Her Children"
 - Emphasized the importance of the mother and included teaching methods for parents



Friedrich Wilhelm Froebel

(1782-1852)

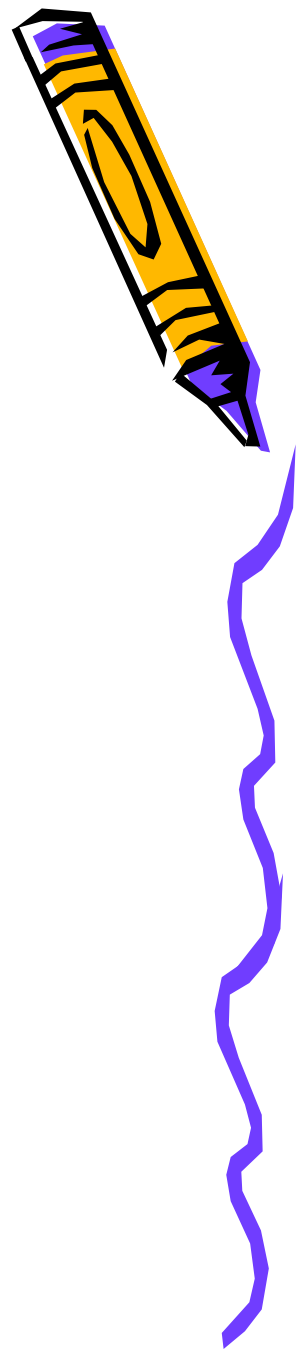


- 'Father of kindergarten'
 - development of a curriculum for the kindergarten
 - Based on the needs/development of the child
 - Emphasized importance of mother in development
 - "Mother Play and Nursery Songs with Finger Plays"



Historical Influences on Parent Education and Involvement

- Early 20th century
- 1960's
- 1970's
- 1980's
- 1990's
- 21st century



Early 20th century



- 1890-1910 stressed love and freedom
 - White House Conference on Care of Dependent Children - 1909
 - 1910-1930 emphasis on strict scheduling and discipline.
 - "Infant Care", parent education book pub.
 - "expect obedience, ignore temper tantrums, and restrict physical handling"
 - U of Chicago - parent cooperative formed - 1916
- Followed nursery school traditions established in England



Early 20th century



- 1920-1950s - focus on character formation in early childhood
- 1920s - period of indulgence and reckless youth
 - lead to shift toward behavior modification through environmental conditioning (Watsonian behaviorism)
 - Also learning-by-doing theories (Dewey)

Parent group memberships increased dramatically

PTA: 1915 - 60,000 to 1930 - 1.5 million



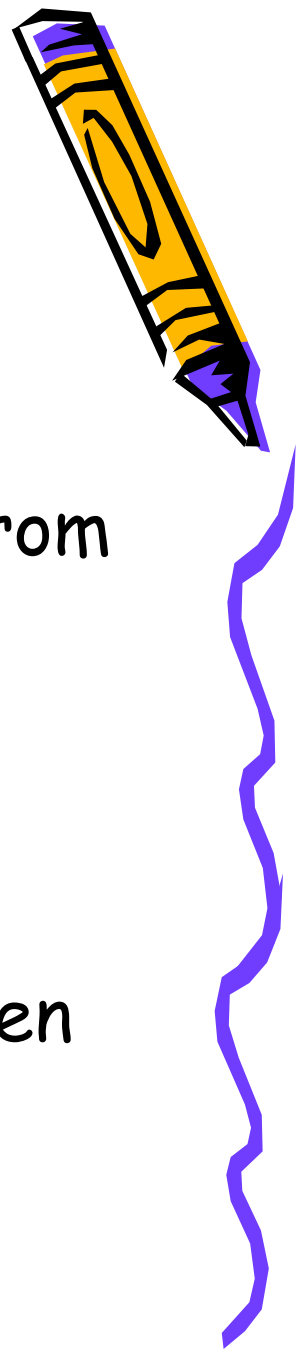
Early 20th century - 1930s



- 1930s - effects of the Great Depression
 - Difficulty in providing for families
 - White House Conference on Child Health and Protection - 1930
 - Works Progress Administration - offered forum for mothers to learn about home management
 - Federal Emergency Relief Administration - work-relief wages for unemployed teachers and others to form nursery schools.
 - Despite Depression, high levels of parent involvement
 - Information received through mass media, radio, magazines, bulletins, lectures, etc.



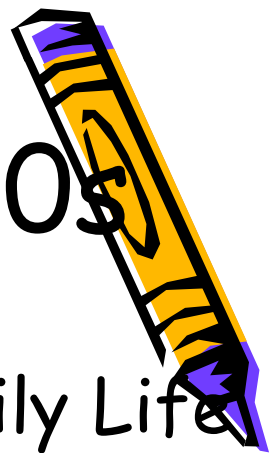
Early 20th century - 1940s



- 1940s - realization that no one answer worked for all situations - shift away from strict thinking of the 20s and 30s
 - New goal: emotionally healthy child
- Benjamin Spock - "*The Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care.*"
 - advised parents to enjoy their children and the role of parent
- ~~WWII~~ WWII - reduction in parent education offerings



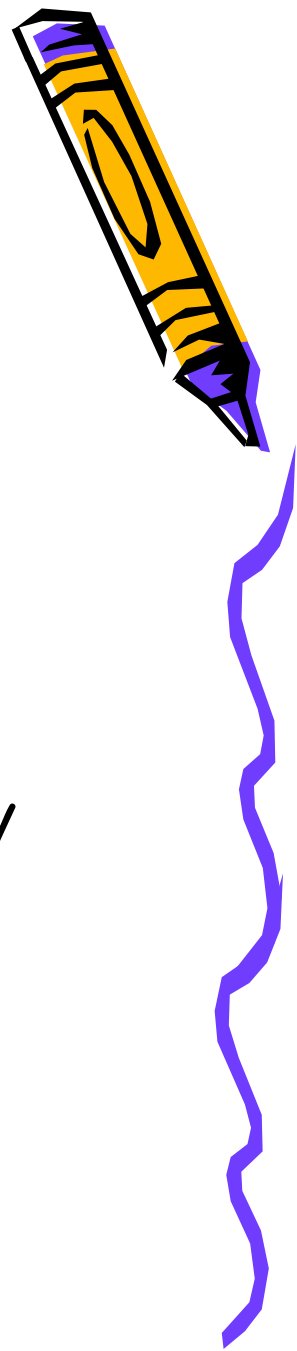
Early 20th century - 1950s



- Post WWII, renewed emphasis on Family Life
- "Your Child from 6 to 12", book on home-school relationship by James Hymes
- Erikson's "Childhood and Society"



Erikson's "Childhood and Society"



- 8 stages of personality development
 - Infants: trust vs. mistrust
 - Toddlers: autonomy vs. shame and doubt
 - Preschoolers: initiative vs. guilt
 - School-age children: industry vs. inferiority
 - Adolescents: forming identity vs. identity diffusion
 - Young adults: intimacy vs. isolation
 - Adults: generativity vs. self-absorption
 - Mature adults: integrity vs. despair



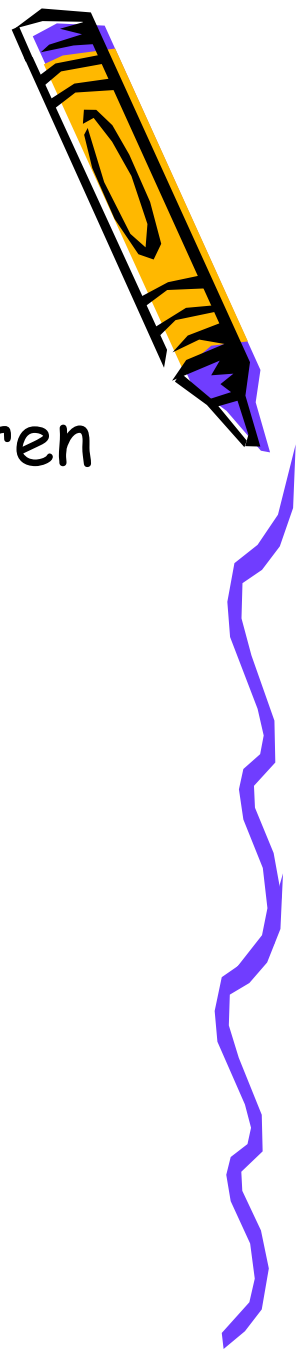
1960s - Great Social Change



- Women in workforce, father involvement, more parent education available
- War on Poverty - social welfare programs on education and healthcare
- Head Start created - 1965
- Elementary & Secondary Education Act (Title I, IV-C)
- Civil Rights Act - 1965



1970s - Era of Advocacy



- Rise parents advocating for their children and questioning programs
- Equal rights for the special child
- Racial integration and busing
- More research showing importance of home environment in early childhood
- Research results led to additional early childhood programs



1980s



- Family Concerns

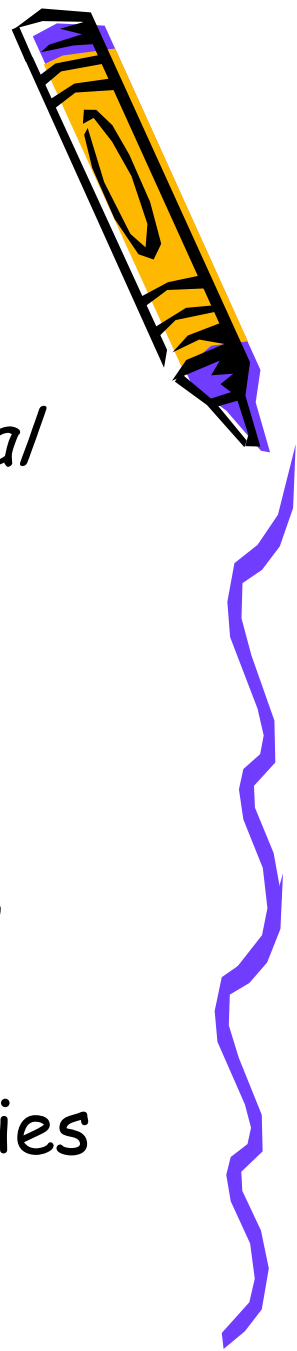
- Financial pressure, drugs, violence (on the streets and TV), health care, nutrition, lack of childcare
- Increase in teenage pregnancies, high number of single-mothers

- Parent Education

- Fears of public interference in the family
- Family and Parental Leave Act defeated



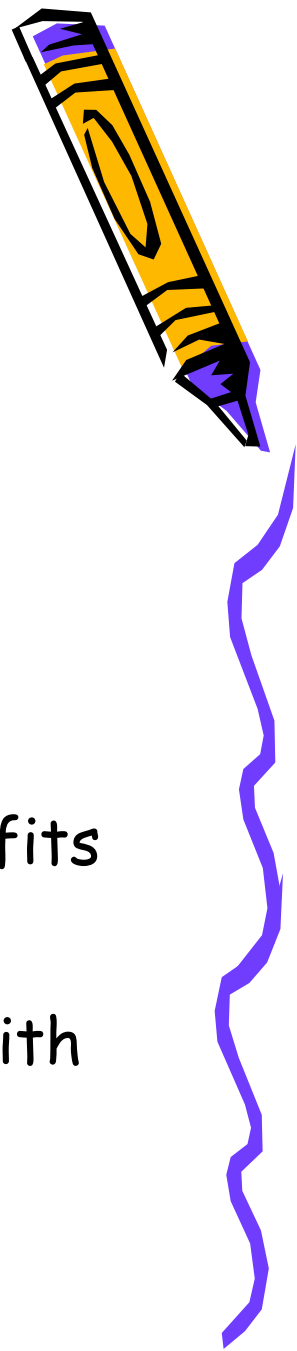
1990s - Focus on Family



- Views shift from importance of *parental* involvement to *family* involvement
- Increased Federal involvement:
 - Title I, Even Start, Goals 2000 standards, family resources centers
- Increased popularity of home-schooling
- Family and Medical Leave Act passed
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) - 1996



21st Century - Focus on Education



- No Child Left Behind Act of 2001
- Parent Education offered through U.S. Dept of Ed. and others
- Revised Family and Medical Leave Act
 - Allowed for temporary unemployment benefits
- Growing use of technology in schools
 - By 2008 all public schools had computers with internet access.

